



**Testimony
Betsy Gara
Executive Director
Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST)
Before the Planning & Development Committee
March 18, 2019**

The Connecticut Council of Small Towns (COST) respectfully submits comments on the following bills before the committee:

- HB- 7361 - An Act Concerning Municipalities
- HB-7363 - An Act Concerning Buildings
- SB-1073 - An Act Concerning Conservation and Development
- SB-1074 - An Act Concerning Economic Development
- SB-1077 - An Act Concerning Municipal Services
- HB- 7362 - An Act Concerning Zoning

Although the above-referenced bills are limited to technical corrections, which we do not have a position on, we are concerned that the bills may be placeholders.

If there are discussions about incorporating substantive recommendations on these broad topics in the bills, COST respectfully requests to be included in such discussions, as the state's only organization dedicated exclusively to advocating on behalf of the interests of Connecticut's smaller towns in the legislative process.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.